## The Power of VISION:

# Creating a Pathway into the Future

Welcome to the beginning of a fantastic journey! We're very excited you have decided to join us on what promises to be an adventure - both for this two-day training, and for your applications back home.

The Power of VISION: Creating a Pathway into the Future is designed to help you think about what YOU would like "tomorrow" to look like. More than that, it's a process. And you (and those around you) are central to that process. These two days are arranged so you have some tremendous stimuli with the speakers and plenary sessions, and some quality reflection time with a group of colleagues. The group will meet three separate times, and will grapple with a range of issues that will help you envision, and plan for, your tomorrows.

In addition, we hope that you will be able to take this process that you're about to experience, and apply it on your campus or in your community. Our hope is that you will be able to replicate this process with key formal and informal leaders.

So, as you set out on this journey, we ask that you keep in mind two things:

- Enjoy the process, as you gain a clearer vision and identify some next steps!
- 2. Get ready to help guide the process in your own home setting!

#### Detailed Agenda

## Day One:

#### REGISTRATION

9:30-10:00 a.m.

#### PLENARY SESSION I: THE POWER OF VISION

10:00-11:45 a.m.

This opening keynote address sets the stage for the conference, as well as for our campus and community efforts. Secretary of Education, Belle Wheelan, will emphasize the importance of having a clear vision and one which addresses current student needs. She will emphasize the power of having and articulating this mission, and will challenge each participant to identify and honor a needs-based and compassionate vision on campus or in a community.

#### LUNCH

12:00-1:00 p.m.

## INTERACTIVE SESSION I: BUILDING INDIVIDUAL VISION, CREATING SHARED VISION 1:15-3:00 p.m.

Creating a vision, individual or shared, is a dynamic process exemplified by unguarded sharing, group inquiry and powerful discourse. In this session we will learn the key components of a vision, and how to capture the heart and soul of our individual visions. The role of compromise and negotiation in building a shared vision will be illustrated.

#### BREAK

3:00-3:15 p.m.

#### PLENARY SESSION II: VISION OF THE MINDS

3:15-4:15 p.m.

Do you ever wonder what others are thinking? Do you wish people would really (really) speak their minds? This session uses decision software in an interactive way, and will gather insights, perspectives, and even new directions for Virginia's alcohol abuse prevention efforts. In addition to gaining some new viewpoints, this session will model the use of the Option Finder technology that you can bring to your campus or community!

#### INTERACTIVE SESSION II: WHEN THE VISION IS BLURRED

4:30-5:30 p.m.

We all have the ability to visualize the way alcohol prevention should be in our community and in our state. Realistically, this vision becomes blurred for a number of reasons. There may be a conflict of philosophy; the key people may have changed; the senior administrators may have ceased supporting the alcohol prevention efforts. These are some of the challenges we face. This group session will look at how we can overcome these obstacles to clear our vision.

#### ADJOURN, HOTEL CHECK-IN

5:30 p.m.

Dinner on your own

### Day Two:

#### **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

7:30-8:15 a.m.

#### PLENARY SESSION III: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

8:30-10:00 a.m.

When was the last time you had your vision checked? Come to this exciting and introspective session, and take a look at the condition of your "vision." Mr. James Ball, CEO and Co-Founder of The Goals Institute, will offer insights from the business community on how to transform a vision into action. He will emphasize the need for strategic priorities and will challenge each participant to establish priorities for their vision.

#### **BREAK**

10:00-10:15 a.m.

#### INTERACTIVE SESSION III: CLEARING YOUR VISION

10:15-11:45 a.m.

Now that you have discovered your vision and identified the obstacles that might be in your path, it is time to clear your vision. Learn to stay focused and overcome your obstacles. In this session you will identify: action processes to apply in your own community, resources that are or can be available to you, ways to stay on track and stay energized, and who will guide the process.

#### LUNCH

12:00-1:00 p.m.

## CLOSING SESSION: COMMON VISION AND INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT 1:15-3:00 p.m.

When you think of Virginia (college campus or community) in the year 2010 or 2020, what comes to mind? What is the quality of life for a family, students, the elderly, children and community members? What type of personal or professional excellence exists, and what is the cultural and social life like? And, what is the role of alcohol, alcohol use, and alcohol abuse in our community?



## **PLENARY SESSION I:**

## THE POWER OF VISION

After participating in this session, participants will:

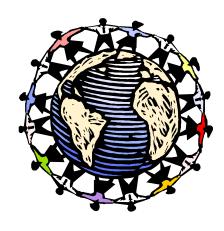
- 1) Have a perspective about the role of vision.
- 2) Understand the importance of vision.
- 3) Be able to illustrate ways that vision is helpful for campus and community efforts.
- 4) Be prepared for personal and group exploration.

What are the primary messages emphasized by Secretary Wheelan in her opening remarks?

In what ways are these relevant to you individually?

In what ways are these relevant to your campus and/or community?

What are some potential applications of these?



## **INTERACTIVE SESSION I:**

## BUILDING INDIVIDUAL VISION, CREATING SHARED VISION

Creating a vision, individual or shared, is a dynamic process exemplified by unguarded sharing, group inquiry, and powerful discourse. In this session, we will learn the key components of a vision, and how to capture the heart and soul of our individual visions. The role of compromise and negotiation in building a shared vision will be illustrated.

After participating in this session, participants will:

- 1. Have a sense of comfort with the group.
- 2. Have experienced unguarded sharing.
- 3. Have built a group vision.
- 4. Understand the role of compromise and negotiation in group vision.

Imagine that you are removed from your campus or community via hovercraft until the year 2010. When you return, you actually "hover" over the campus or community for a week. You have the ability to observe the environment and view behavior, eavesdrop on conversations, and review what is happening. Please imagine what your environment will look like when you finally do return. This is an overall vision of what you would like for your campus and/or community. As you visualize, please think in terms of specific behaviors, patterns, images, and resources, both regarding what is and is not present. You may write this as words, phrases, symbols, artwork, illustrations, poems, or any other visual representation.

TIPS: 

Write from your personal perspective.

∠In your group, each individual should share their vision of the campus and/or community environment in the year 2010. Compare and contrast what appears in many visions, and what is unique in only one or some of the vision statements.

TIPS: 

\*\* Take turns sharing parts of personal vision statement.

≥≤ Pool visions, and define and articulate a common vision.

**ME** Personal visions translated into a shared vision.

∠ What looks most exciting?

∠ What looks most promising?

ME What does the collective vision feel like?

Me What are the descriptive words?

As an individual, identify what values emerge from this process as being important for you. Think about the following, but feel free to include any values important to you:

Safety Quality Privacy Compassion Respect Humanity Trust Independence Thoughtfulness **Optimism** Kindness Courage Lovalty Creativity Originality Honesty Health **Empathy** Flexibility Security Wonderment Forgiveness Humor Open-mindedness

Share these values with others in your group. Compare what appears to be common (shared), and what appears to be unique.

TIPS: 

What looks most exciting?

Based on these individual and shared visions, you now have the initial framework for your campus or community's vision. This includes the overall "desired state of affairs" for the campus community, as well as key values to maintain.

TIP: 

Personal visions translated into a shared vision.



## **PLENARY SESSION II:**

## VISION OF THE MINDS

After participating in this session, participants will:

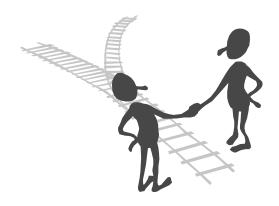
- 1. Identify roadblocks to the accomplishment of vision.
- 2. Gain a sense of shared awareness of other roadblocks.
- 3. Have begun discussing ways to overcome the roadblocks.
- 4. Have participated in a process for identifying roadblocks.

What are the primary messages emphasized in this interactive plenary session?

In what ways are these relevant to you individually?

In what ways are these relevant to your campus or community?

What are some potential applications of these?



## **INTERACTIVE SESSION II:**

### WHEN THE VISION IS BLURRED

We all have the ability to visualize the way alcohol prevention should be in our community and in our state. Realistically, this vision becomes blurred for a number of reasons. There may be a conflict of philosophy; the key people may have changed; or the senior administrators may have ceased supporting the alcohol prevention efforts. These are some of the challenges we face. This group session will look at how we can overcome these obstacles to clear our vision.

After participating in this session, participants will:

- 1. Identify core values and philosophy.
- 2. Clarify roadblocks to vision.
- 3. Identify strategies to achieve the vision and overcome roadblocks.
- Review the shared vision developed during the first interactive session.

  Based on the previous session, determine ways in which your group wants to modify this shared vision.

TIPS.

- What are two or three very specific and important ways each core value reflects itself, or could reflect itself, on your campus? Be specific.
- ZIn refining the vision, examine the shared values held by the group. For each value, identify clearly:
  - What the campus and/or community is currently doing well to express these values, and
  - What it could do better to express these values.

IIPS:

- How does the current reality compare to your philosophy and shared vision?

Identify specific concerns, obstacles, or challenges that may keep this vision from being achieved. When discussing these, determine which of these challenges are permanent and unchangeable, and which can be modified. Where possible, incorporate a sense of others' values regarding the campus or community.

TIPS: 

Mere do these values cause conflict on your campus?

Revise the vision to make it more consistent with the current reality. The aim is to bring together the ideal vision and the current reality, so there is one clear, blended version that reflects reality.

TIP: 
Mow do we translate these feelings into and reactions into motivation?





## **PLENARY SESSION III:**

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

After participating in this session, participants will:

- 1. Gain insights from the business community to transform vision into action.
- 2. Move from vision to specific goals and objectives.
- 3. Take the next step to establish strategic priorities.
- 4. Set the stage for reviewing accomplishments.

What are the primary messages emphasized by Mr. Ball in his remarks?

In what ways are these relevant to you individually?

In what ways are these relevant to your campus and/or community?

What are some potential applications of these?



## **INTERACTIVE SESSION III:**

## **CLEARING YOUR VISION**

Now that you have discovered your vision and identified the obstacles that might be in your path, it is time to clear your vision. Learn to stay focused and overcome your obstacles. In this session, you will identify: action processes to apply in your own college or community, resources that are or can be available to you, ways to stay on track and stay energized, and who will guide the process.

After participating in this session, participants will:

- 1. Identify potential action process.
- 2. Identify support and resources.
- 3. Identify tracking devices.
- 4. Identify vision guide.

Reflect upon the vision statement/image prepared by this group. Make any refinements, in preparation for presenting this to the entire conference group in the closing session.

What specific action processes are appropriate to be applied in your campus and/or community? This includes specific steps necessary to be taken to achieve the vision statement.

#### ∠How can this best be implemented with students or youth?

TIP: 

How do we bring students or youth into our vision?

∠What resources exist that can be available?

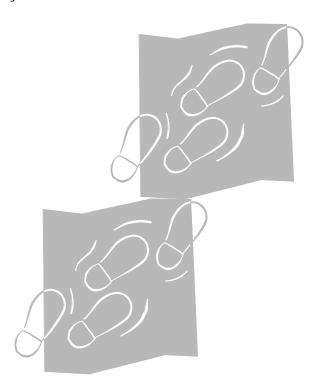
∠What resources are needed?

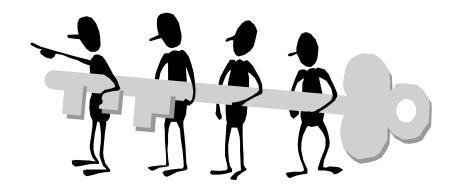
∠How can we stay on track?

∠How can we stay energized?

TIP: 

Who will be your leader?





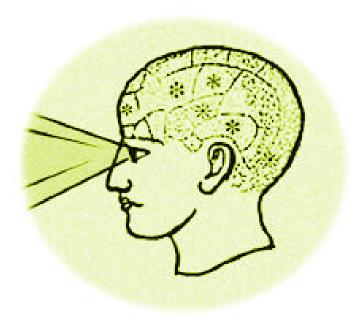
As you reflect upon the process you have been through, we hope you have found it helpful, instructive, and enjoyable. We hope the process, and the ideas generated, have helped breathe new energy and spirit into your campus and community prevention efforts. We also hope you have experienced a process that you found could be valuable to replicate in your own locale.

The key questions now are "So what?" and "Now what?"

The answers should be clear as you prepare to move forward and onward. The planners of this training believe that the "So what?" question is important, as it helps to clarify where you want to go and the ways of getting there. Hopefully, *The Power of VISION: Creating a Pathway to the Future* has opened doors to new directions and dimensions. And, the "Now what?" question has addressed what action steps you are willing to make, and what plans you actually take. We hope your commitment and energy is revitalized, because only now can a different tomorrow - one which we value - arrive more quickly.

We hope you carry with you the following spirit:

Never give up! Never give up! Never, never, never!
- Winston Churchill



The Power of VISION: Creating a Pathway into the Future was planned by the Virginia College Alcohol College Leadership Council (VA CALC) in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control Education Section.